



MEDIA RELEASE

Updated 31st December 2023

Garrick Theatre
16 Meadow Street,
Guildford WA 6055

Garrick Theatre is proud to present a collection of three short plays as part of their One Act Season kicking off the new year in February. Showing over a two-week season at Guildford's historic theatre, we have a drama, a dark comedy and a significant Australian story.

The one-act season is a ground where theatres encourage new directors, new works and people keen to be involved in theatre either onstage or backstage.

First, we have ***Overtones***, a drama by Alice Gerstenberg, directed by Rebekah O'Brien. Two women as they appear to each other, and their inner selves as they really are. Harriet and Margaret are two refined ladies, but Hettie and Maggie are their thoughts and emotions come to life.

First time director Rebekah O'Brien who featured in Garrick's *The Golden Pathway Annual* at the beginning of 2023 and most recently seen in *Lovers* with PAANDA and *By the Bog of Cats* at Irish Theatre Players, says she was interested in directing this show because it is extremely relatable. "We all have that voice in our head that tells us what we truly want to say versus what actually comes out of our mouth," she said.

"Directing a show has always been on my to do list and I'm excited to bring my ideas to the Garrick stage. I hope everyone will enjoy what my piece has to say."

Overtones features: Ali McNamara, Erin Shay Horrigan, Fiona Forster and Amanda Bird.

Secondly, we have ***The Worker***, a dark comedy by Walter Wykes, directed by Jason Robert Lester. This play shows the relationship between a husband and wife and how the man's desire to provide disrupts their bond. It portrays how the husband spending too much time at work can affect the wife.

With a background in film, first time director Jason Jones featured in *Don't Fear the Reaper* which was part of Garrick Theatre's one act season in 2022. He has also performed with Roxy Lane Theatre in *The Bright Side of Life* and Company O's production of *Art*.

Lester says that although it's a dark comedy and the show takes the idea to extremes, "I believe that a lot of people feel somewhat disposable in their workplaces. There are aspects of *The Worker* that people will be able to relate and sympathise with."

The Worker features: Mason Allen, Ashlee McKenna and Peri Watson.

After interval, our final show in the session is ***The Mysterious Amateur Tramp***, a significant Australian story and new play written by Perth playwright Jenny Davis and directed by Melanie DeCull. Based on the book 'The Amateur Tramp' by Colin Choat, this play is the reimagining of the extraordinary walk of journalist and mystery crime writer Aidan de Brune who was the first person to walk solo and unassisted around the perimeter of Australia in 1921 to 1924. Everywhere he walked people signed his travel diary, evidencing his presence at the places he passed through. There was more to Aidan than anyone truly knew: Who was he? What was he escaping or trying to find? What conversations took place along the way – with others and himself?

Melanie who started at the Garrick Theatre in 1988, last directed *Johnno's Story* and *The Leather Jacket* in the mid 2000s again at Garrick and is excited to bring this show to the stage as it has a personal chord for her and her family.

"What was a forever family mystery unravelled in 2018 and my mystery Great-Grandfather turned out to be Aidan de Brune who was living by his 'pen' name. It's a significant Australian story that had been lost until a dedicated researcher contacted our family. It's a story that we all should know about and thanks to Jenny Davis, I have the opportunity to share it now. Amazingly it also lines up with 100 years since Aidan completed his two and a half year walk".

The Mysterious Amateur Tramp features: Andy Peckover, Sarah House, Peter Neaves and Jacob Peckover.

Performance Dates:

February 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17 at 7.30pm

February 11 at 2pm

Doors open 30 minutes prior to curtain.

Garrick Theatre: 16 Meadow Street, Guildford

All tickets: \$10 (includes all three shows) +booking fee

Bookings: www.TAZtix.com.au/garricktheatre or phone TAZ Tix 9255 3336



Contact TAZ Tix for interview opportunities – taz@taztix.com.au